

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6241

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PARM, MPOL, MORG, UR, US

SUBJECT: PRAVDA ON CIVIL DEFENSE AND THE STRATEGIC BALANCE

REF: MOSCOW 3566

1. IN A JULY 11 PRAVDA COMMENTARY ENTITLED "MOLE BUSTLE-PAMPHLET", AMERICAN AFFAIRS EDITOR SERGEY VISHNEVSKIY ATTACKS CURRENT U.S. PUBLIC CHARGES THAT SOVIET CIVIL DEFENSE EFFORTS ARE DESTABILIZING THE STRATEGIC BALANCE, CITING STATEMENTS BY MRS. SCOTT AND BOOK BY LEON GOURE TO BOLSTER HIS CASE. MOST OF ARTICLE IS KEYED TO FALL-OUT SHELTER CONTROVERSY OF THE 1960'S; THESIS IS THAT COLD WARRIORS ARE TRYING TO KEEP THE RED FLAG HIGH AT A TIME WHEN MOST AMERICANS ARE TURNING AWAY FROM COLD WAR "TOWARD PEACE, TOWARD THE LIGHT;" REBUTTAL IS SIMPLE RIDICULE OF CHARGES THAT SOVIETS FROM 7 TO 70 DO NOTHING ELSE BUT PREPARE FOR NUCLEAR ATTACK.

2. COMMENT. ITEM IS WORTHY OF NOTE AS FIRST SOVIET PUBLIC NOTICE OF U.S. DEBATE ON CIVIL DEFENSE AND
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THE STRATEGIC BALANCE.

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Message Attributes

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